

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 LAGOS 07477 051744Z

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ACTION AF-06

INFO OCT-01 EA-06 IO-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00

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FM AMEMBASSY LAGOS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 542

INFO AMEMBASSY SEOUL

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

C O N F I D E N T I A L LAGOS 7477

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, NI, KN, KS

SUBJECT: NIGERIAN ATTITUDE TOWARD KOREA

REF: A. STATE 182747 B. LAGOS 5323 (NOTAL)

1. NEW REGIME IN NIGERIA IS FOR MOMENT CONCENTRATING ON DOMESTIC AFFAIRS; FOREIGN POLICY MATTERS TAKING BACK SEAT. NEW COMMISSIONER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS HAS NOT RPT NOT YET BEEN NAMED. HOWEVER, IT IS EXTREMELY UNLIKELY THAT ANY CHANGE OF ATTITUDE TOWARD QUESTION OF KOREA WILL TAKE PLACE. AS STATED REFTEL B, LAGOS HAS MADE IT VERY CLEAR FMG HAS NO RPT NO DESIRE TO BECOME INVOLVED IN POLITICAL DISPUTE WHICH HAS NO RPT NO DIRECT BEARING ON NIGERIA.

2. IF ANYTHING, WE WOULD EXPECT NEW REGIME TO ADHERE EVEN MORE CLOSELY TO NON-ALIGNED POSITION ON MATTERS SUCH AS KOREA THAN WAS THE CASE UNDER PREVIOUS ADMINISTRATION. AS WE UNDERSTAND

FMG ATTITUDES, TO AVOID CHOOSING SIDES IN KOREA DISPUTE IS AS MUCH FAVORED BY MEA BUREAUCRACY AS BY MILITARY LEADERSHIP. WE DOUBT GOOD-WILL MESSAGE CITED REFTEL A WILL HAVE ANY EFFECT ON FMG POLICY EXCEPT PERHAPS TO IRRITATE MEA.

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Message Attributes

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